of Government and Government agencies regarding rehabilitating the Sick Industrial Units;

(b) if so, what are the details thereof;

(c) whether Government have accepted the approach outlined in the said note; and

(d) if not, what are the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI M. ARUNACHALAM): (a) No, Sir.
(b) to (d) Do not arise.

Lohia Machines Ltd., Kanpur

525. SHRI BIR BHADRA PRATAP SINGH: Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Lohia Machines Limited, Kanpur has collected about Rs. 115 crores from the public against booking of Vespa XE Scooters as initial deposit;

(b) whether out of the collection a sum of more than Rs. 9.1 crores had been kept with the company as on 31st December, 1985 and totally misutilised against the interest of production of the company and/or the same has been diverted against the interest of this public limited company;

(c) if so, the facts thereof and action being contemplated to get such fund immediately deposited with public sector financial institutions so that the general public who had booked scooters may not be defrauded in any way; and

(d) what monitoring process is being followed to ensure that the Company quickens the process of production of scooters and expedites delivery without creating atmosphere of short supply?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI M. ARUNACHALAM): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) Out of Rs. 115 crore received initially by the company against booking of scooters, Rs. 90.78 crore remain with it, after allowing for refunds against cancellations and adjustments against deliveries as on 31.12.85. The Company has advised having deployed funds as per guidelines issued by Government in this regard;

(d) The company has targetted a production of 1,00,000 Nos. in 1986 and 1,25,000 Nos. from 1987 onwards. In addition, Vespa Car Co. Ltd. promoted jointly by Lohia Machines Ltd. and Piaggio & C.S.p.a. of Italy and licensed to manufacture 2,00,000 Nos. per annum will also supply scooters against the booking of Lohia Machines Ltd.

Free home delivery of LPG cylinders

526. SHRI KAPIL VERMA:
SHRIMATI RATAN KUMARI:

Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are considering a proposal to end the present system of free home delivery of cooking gas cylinders and charge an extra amount for this facility from the consumers; and

(b) whether some distributors of the Bharat Petroleum and Hindustan Petroleum gas in Bombay have resigned;

(c) if so, what is their number and what are the reasons given by them?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI CHANDRA SHEKHAR SINGH): (a) No such decision has been taken.

(b) and (c) Since 1984, 7 LPG distributors of Bharat Petroleum Corporation and Hindustan Petroleum Corporation resigned for one or more of the following reasons:

(1) Personal and domestic difficulties.

(2) Avowed uneconomic operation of the distributorship.

(3) As a sequel to warning letters issued by the oil company concerned for various malpractices/ irregularities detected.

Purchase of gas stove at the time of getting new connections

527. SHRI SURESH PACHOURI: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have issued any directive to LPG agencies not to force the consumers to purchase the gas stove from them while giving new gas connections to the consumers;

(b) if so, whether Government have received complaints where the gas agency holders force the consumers to purchase the same at an exhorbitant prices;

(c) whether any such complaint against LPG dealers in Saharanpur have been received by the I.O.C. etc., if so, what action Government have taken against such dealers; and

(d) whether it would not be proper for the IOC to mention this condition in the sanction letter itself so that the LPG dealers may not harass the consumers?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI CHANDRA SHEKHAR SINGH): (a) LPG distributors are under instructions from the oil companies not to pressurise the customers to purchase LPG stoves from the distributor concerned at the time of release of new gas connections, since customers have the liberty to purchase the stoves from anywhere as long as these carry ISI certification mark.

(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) Indian Oil Corporation received one written complaint from Saharanpur alleging forced sale of hot plate. However, on investigation it was found that no such complaint exists.

(d) This condition is incorporated in the intimation letter sent to prospective consumers.

Indira Sarovar Hydel Project

528. SHRI SURESH PACHOURI: Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state:

(a whether it is a fact that the Central Government have not yet cleared the Indira Sarovar Hydel Project to be established at Bastar;

(b) if so, what are the details thereof; and

(c) what is the total cost likely to be incurred on this project and by when it is likely to be completed and how much power would be generated according to the present indications?

THE MINISTER OF ENERGY (SHRI VASANT SATHE): (a) and (b) The Indira Sarovar Hydro-electric Project in Madhya Pradesh is an ongoing project and has been sanctioned by the Planning Commission in February, 1979 after techno-economic and environmental clearances. However, the proposal regarding transfer of forest land under the Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980 is under consideration.